

## Message Text

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46

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 H-01 L-03 SCA-01 DODE-00 /013 W

----- 109952

P 061150Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5703

UNCLAS BANGKOK 12711

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MILI, TH.

SUBJ: PFC KENNETH R. RALSTON, JR.

FOR H: PASS TO SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY,  
2400A JFK BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

1. REFERENCE YOUR PERSONAL TELEGRAM TO ME, I WISH TO INFORM YOU THAT PRIVATE RALSTON WAS INITIALLY CONFINED AT THE KLONG PREN PRISON AFTER HIS CONVICTION ON JULY 10, 1974 FOR DESECRATION OF TWO FLAGS, ONE OF WHICH WAS THE THAI NATIONAL FLAG. AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE TWO WEEK PERIOD IN WHICH HE COULD APPEAL, HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE CHON BURI PROVINCIAL PRISON ANNEX ON JULY 27, 1974. THE CHON BURI PRISON ANNEX WAS DESIGNED BY THE THAIS FOR THE CONFINEMENT OF FOREIGNERS AS WELL AS THAIS AND, BY AGREEMENT, US MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE TRANSFERRED TO IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER CONVICTION. ITS LOCATION, NEAR CAMP SAMAE SAN, ALSO MAKES IT EASIER FOR THE US MILITARY TO PROVIDE CONFINED MEMBERS WITH ADDITIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE ITEMS AND FACILITATES REGULAR VISITS.

2. EVEN THOUGH PVT. RALSTON HAS BEEN VISITED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS BY ARMY OFFICIALS AT BOTH FACILITIES, HE HAS NOT EXPRESSED A FEAR FOR HIS PERSONAL SAFETY. AT KLONG PREM, HOWEVER, HE DID COMPLAIN OF BEING VERBALLY ABUSED.

3. AN OFFICER FROM PVT. RALSTON'S ORGANIZATION IS VISITING HIM TODAY TO DETERMINE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HIS CURRENT WELLBEING AND PERSONAL SAFETY. CONSEQUENTLY, I DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS NECESSARY TO SEND A MEMBER OF MY STAFF. I WILL ADVISE YOU

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OF THE RESULTS OF HIS VISIT AS SOON AS RECEIVED.

WILLIAM R. KINTNER  
AMERICAN AMBASSADOR  
BANGKOK, THAILAND

4. FYI SEN. KENNEDY'S CABLE READS QUOTE I WOULD APPRECIATE A  
MEMBER OF YOUR STAFF VISITING PRIVATE KENNETH RALSTON PRESENTLY  
CONSIGNED AT THE KLONG PREM PRISON. PRIVATE RALSTON'S MOTHER  
IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT HIS PERSONAL SAFETY AND WELLBEING AS  
A RESULT OF A LETTER FROM HER SON. PLEASE REPLY 2400A JFK  
BUILDING BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS. SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY  
UNQUOTE.  
KINTNER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BANGKO12711  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740214-0279  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SCSE  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PFC KENNETH R. RALSTON, JR. FOR H: PASS TO SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY  
**TAGS:** CASC, TH, (RALSTON, KENNETH R)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005